## **Abstract**

An exemplary embodiment of the invention relates to a method, system, and storage medium for providing search and reference functions for a messaging system. The method comprises receiving a request to search a data archive for reference information relating to at least one keyword selected by a messaging system user while the messaging system user is actively engaged in composing a message or a response to a message. The method further includes searching the data archive and, if a reference is found, presenting the reference to the messaging system user within the message. The data archive includes information gathered from the messaging system user's message folder and at least one of a local data storage system, and a shared online repository. Embodiments of the invention also include a system and a storage medium.